



# Congressman Tim Bishop

*FIRST DISTRICT -- NEW YORK*

## NEWS RELEASE

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **BISHOP DELIVERS \$45 MILLION FOR DISTRICT IN TRANSPORTATION BILL**

*High Level of Funding Due to Congressman's Seat on Committee*

**Washington, DC**— Congressman Tim Bishop today announced a major victory for transportation throughout the 1<sup>st</sup> Congressional District. Bishop secured \$45 million in projects for his district in the transportation bill, which passed the House of Representatives today. Bishop was able to deliver this significant level of funding in the Transportation Bill as a result of his seat on the powerful Transportation and Infrastructure Committee. Local leaders regardless of party agreed that this bill will help our communities.

"I am very proud to bring home these projects which will improve transportation in our communities and create local jobs," Bishop said. "I am pleased to deliver so much in just my first term. As this bill moves through the process, I will fight to protect these important projects."

Bishop fought to include projects throughout the district in the bill, some of the local highlights are \$2 million to construct a Fire Island ferry terminal in Patchogue; \$1 million to improve Maple Avenue; \$1.2 to improve pedestrian and bicycle safety on Main Street in Riverhead which will aid in the town's revitalization effort; \$8 million in improvements to Montauk Highway from County Road 46 to Barnes Road; \$5 million to construct a 3.3 mile Greenway Trail from East Setauket to Port Jefferson Station; \$1.4 million for various road and pedestrian safety improvements along Main Street in Patchogue; and many other projects.

Now that the bill has passed the House, it will need to go to conference with the Senate version before being signed by President Bush. The House passed a bill which funds transportation nationwide over the next six years at a level of \$275 billion. Bishop stressed that he will fight hard throughout that process to maintain these provisions for his district.

Improving transportation has been a major priority for Bishop. Last June, he brought Congressman James Oberstar, the Ranking Member of the Transportation Committee to Long Island to survey local needs.

"Tim Bishop is a strong advocate for Long Island on the Transportation Committee," Oberstar said. "I saw this firsthand when he brought me to his district to drive home the need for transportation funding. He has fought hard and is delivering an astounding \$45 million in projects. That's an incredible success for a first-term Congressman and proof of Tim Bishop's effectiveness."

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Bishop worked closely with local, state and federal officials, plus community groups and constituents throughout his first year to identify local needs to fight for in Congress. Bishop has held several meetings and forums throughout the district.

“Throughout this process, I have worked together with leaders throughout the district and have worked hard to address the needs they’ve raised,” Bishop said. “They did an outstanding job of informing me about how I could be most effective for our community.”

Leaders from both parties praised the local impact of the bill and thanked Congressman Bishop for his efforts.

“This is great news that Congressman Bishop has been able to secure \$45 million of transportation funding for critical projects within his congressional district,” Legislator Brian Foley, Minority Leader of the County Legislature, said.

“Congressman Bishop has come through once again for the Town of Smithtown,” Supervisor Vecchio said. “This funding will enable the Town of Smithtown to complete projects which otherwise would be paid for directly by Smithtown taxpayers.”

“This funding is good news for local residents and will go a long way toward improving our safety and quality of life,” Assemblywoman Patricia Eddington said. “Working together with Congressman Bishop, I am confident that together, we can continue to get real results for the families of Suffolk County.”

“I am very pleased that Congressman Bishop was able to secure funding for these important transportation projects,” State Senator John J. Flanagan said. “This funding will help our area move forward with some much needed improvements to our transportation infrastructure and will help alleviate some of the traffic headaches.”

“The federal Transportation Bill meets the priorities of the South Fork,” Assemblyman Fred W. Thiele, Jr. said. “Congressman Bishop is to be commended for his successful efforts on East End transportation issues.”

In addition to projects specific to the 1st Congressional District, Bishop also worked to ensure that key regional transit priorities were authorized for funding in the bill. Projects that help transportation for all New Yorkers including East Side Access, the Long Island Railroad's Third Track Project, the Nassau Hub project, and the Second Avenue Subway were all included in the bill.

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